

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

2:55 p.m.

Room 307 House Office Building

Representative Mayes, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Mayes, Byrum, Angerer, Brown, Kathleen Law, Leland, Sheltroun, Walker, Nitz, Ball, Meekhof. (11/11)

Representative Byrum made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2007. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

Representative Nitz made a motion to excuse absent members. No objections being offered, absent members were excused.

Kristin Brooks, representing the Michigan Food Policy Council (MFPC), provided the Committee an update on MFPC, including Council Members, Food Deserts, Buying Michigan Foods, Task Forces, Recommendations and Implementation Progress. Questions were answered for Committee members.

Patty Cantrell, Project Director for the Michigan Land Use Institute, spoke to the Committee regarding a variety of topics, including the Farm to School Program; the Michigan Land Use Institute Local Buying Guide; suggestions for local and state leaders to grow more food-powered jobs, to help Michigan farms build our health and to protect Michigan land; entrepreneurial agriculture; and assisting local farms in identifying and increasing sales in new and local and regional market opportunities. Discussion followed.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Mayes declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 3:56 p.m.

Representative Jeff Mayes, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538